

authorization to charge any required extension of time fee or any other fees which may be required to preserve the pendency of the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

REMARKS

Applicants hereby request that the Supplemental Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 filed on April 13, 2005 be entered.

Applicants also respectfully request consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith.

To make the record as clear and complete as possible, it is noted that the Examiner contacted Applicants' representative, Heribert Muensterer, on April 19, 2005 by telephone and expressed his concern regarding claim 59 which in the Examiner's opinion gives rise to double patenting in view of claims 1 and 9 of (partially) co-assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,656,425 B1. Applicants' representative informed the Examiner on April 22, 2005 that Applicants intend to file a Request for Continued Examination in order to resolve the double patenting issue and to make of record the additional documents that were cited in the International Search Report and during the examination of U.S. Patent No. 6,656,425 B1.

If there are any issues which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number below.

P24820.A09

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas BENTHIEN et al.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Neil F. Greenblum", written over a horizontal line.

Neil F. Greenblum
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April 26, 2005
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